

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NPG NATO

SUBJECT: 17TH MEETING OF THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP:

HIGHLIGHTS OF MORNING SESSION, 16 JUNE 1975

THIS MESSAGE RETRANSMITS REPORT ON NPG MEETING IN
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

1. AT MORNING SESSION OF NPG, JUNE 16, IN MONTEREY,
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER BRIEFED ALLIES ON US-SOVIET
STRATEGIC BALANCE. IN REVIEWING US STRATEGIC SYSTEMS UNDER
DEVELOPMENT -- INCLUDING M-X AND CRUISE MISSILE --
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER EMPHASIZED US DETERMINATION TO MAIN-
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TAIN STRATEGIC EQUIVALENCE WITH SOVIET UNION. RESPONDING

TO QUESTION ON CHINA, HE SUGGESTED THAT PEKING'S SUPPORT FOR STRONG NATO DEFENSE WAS NOT ACT OF ALTRUISM BUT CALCULATED JUDGEMENT THAT CHINA'S SECURITY WAS THEREBY IMPROVED. SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ALSO PROPOSED THAT ALLIES IN FUTURE GIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION TO:

-- PROBLEM OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION.
-- FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF DOCTRINE FOR TACTICAL EMPLOYMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

2. SECRETARY SCHLESINGER ALSO PROVIDED RECONNAISSANCE PHOTOGRAPHY CLEARLY REFUTING SOMALI DENIALS OF SOVIET MISSILE, AIR AND OTHER FACILITIES AT BERBERA, AND OFFERED THEM FOR PUBLIC USE BY ALLIED GOVERNMENTS IN SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT.

3. IN DISCUSSING WINTEX 75 EXERCISE, MINISTERS NOTED THE NEED BOTH FOR MORE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY ALLIANCE POLITICAL AUTHORITIES AND FOR DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE ALLIED RESPONSES TO WP CHEMICAL WARFARE CAPABILITIES AND DOCTRINE. MINISTERS ALSO NOTED THE NEED FOR MAINTAINING THE PROPER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ELEMENTS OF THE NATO TRIAD.

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